ATTACHMENT J-2

RESPONSE LETTERS ON NOTICE OF PREPARATION (NOP), RESPONSE LETTERS ON SUPPLEMENTAL NOP, RESPONSE LETTERS ON NOTICE OF INTENT (NOI)

RESPONSES TO THE SUPPLEMENTAL NOP

This attachment contains the following responses to the 2007 Supplemental Notice of Preparation:

Responses from Federal Agencies

• United States Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (October 12, 2007, 4 pages)



United States Department of the Interior BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Palm Springs-South Coast Field Office 690 West Garnet Avenue P.O. Box 581260 North Palm Springs, CA 92258-1260 (760) 251-4800 Fax (760) 251-4899



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OCT 12 2007

IN REPLY REFER TO: 1610 (CA660.62)

Mr. Eric Haley Riverside County Transportation Commission 4080 Lemon Street, 3rd Floor Riverside, California 92502-2208 DECEIVED Noct 15 2007

RIVERSIDE COUNTY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Dear Mr. Haley:

Thank you for notifying the Bureau of Land Management about the proposed Mid County Parkway Project. The BLM Palm Springs-South Coast Field Office has received the Supplemental Notice of Preparation for the Draft Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS) for the Mid County Parkway Project, SCH#2004111103.

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has reviewed the Notice and would like to comment on the "alternative alignments" which specifically show encroachment onto BLM administered public lands. The BLM manages 14 parcels of public lands that would be affected by the proposed action and alternatives. These parcels are currently marraged for the protection of sensitive species under the Stephens' Kangaroo Rat Habitat Conservation Plan and the Western Riverside County Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan. Oversight for these Habitat Conservation Plans is carried out by the Riverside County Habitat Conservation Agency (RCHCA) and the Western Riverside County Regional Conservation Authority (RCA) in cooperation with the BLM.

Based on our agreements under the Steven's Kangaroo Rat (SKR) Habitat Conservation Plan, the proposed Mid County Parkway Project and any alternatives being considered would need to stay outside of the BLM administered public lands. We have enclosed a map for your reference.

Also, the BLM would like to see the public lands incorporated into future planning documents.

If you have any additional questions, do not hesitate to contact Diane Gomez, of my staff at (760) 251-4852. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this proposed project.

Sincerely,

John Kalish Field Manager



